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files a caveat against attempting too much, and then suggests that help may be derived from the methods by which the British Commonwealth and the United States have met their problem of union without unity. The proposal of Anglo-American solidarity, coming from a member of the House of Commons, must make queer reading for some members of the American Congress. It is a fortunate omen, however, that the House of Commons still contains representatives who are scholars and writers. American political discussion would be better if we had popular journals in which such essays as these could appear and if there were Senators and Representatives who could write them.

LINDSAY ROGERS,
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Bolshevism, Theory and Practice. By BERTRAND RUSSELL. New York, Harcourt, Brace and Howe, 1920.

The writings of Bertrand Russell are always interesting to read on account of their brilliancy; the reader might not agree with the author's ideas or ideals, but he is invariably stimulated to thinking the subject over and seriously considering the conclusions and deductions of Russell. Thus, his new contribution on Bolshevism is of the greatest importance to the study of these stupendous modern social processes, especially if we keep in mind the personal predilections of the author and his sincere desire to be impartial.

Here we have a man, belonging to the other side, a convinced radical and Communist, strongly believing in the possible benefactions of such a utopia, who went to Russia last summer in order to get personal impressions, to see for himself how the experiment was working and what its results could be. The information he brought from Russia is of the greatest value just for that reason, though the picture he gives us of the practical working of the Soviet rule is most discouraging and depressing.

He points out, quite rightly, that Bolshevism is a sincere attempt to establish and realize Communism and that Russia has fired the hopes of the downtrodden and miserable ones all over the world, but he also adds, which is most important, that this hoped-for utopia is not achieved in Russia and even more, that it cannot be achieved by the means employed by the Bolsheviks. These two conclusions ought to be remembered by all the admirers and defenders of the Lenine government. Bolshevism, Russell says, is not only a political doctrine, but a

religion and one of a very militant type, with elaborate dogmas, inspired scriptures and a very impatient philosophy, which tears down and destroys much more than it constructs and builds up. The Bolsheviki, as many others in life, soon found out that it is infinitely easier to destroy than to build up again, and that it is much easier and sometimes more alluring to hate one's enemies than to love one's friends. Perhaps just for this reason poor Europe still has no peace; it was much easier to conduct the war, which meant simply destruction and hatred; its aims were not complex or involved, whereas peace is essentially construction, with very complicated aims.

Russell's book has two parts. In the first, he gives us a vivid though gruesome description of Russia's present conditions, while in the second he tried to expound and explain the Bolshevik theory. Unfortunately, he added a chapter (IV) on art and education, written by his secretary, Miss D. W. Black; this part of the book is much inferior to the rest of the work and certainly spoils the main impression. Though we could agree with some of Miss Black's conclusions and do believe in her sincere desire to give an impartial picture of what she has seen in Russia, we must state that she understands neither Russian art nor music. It is quite preposterous to say, as she does, that both were "aristocratic and exotic" and that "they could not survive in the modern world" (p. 71); this simply means that she does not know or realize the tremendous influence that Russian art and music had and still have all over the world.

Russell starts his discussion of Bolshevism by describing most vividly the great hopes that were fostered all over the world by the Russian revolution, now usually but wrongly identified with Bolshevism; in other words, how the former awakened glorious hopes and promises, and how the latter selfishly appropriated and sustained these hopes until disappointment began to grow among the Russian people when neither hopes nor promises came true. This is the main reason for Russell's own opposition to Bolshevism (for example, p. 16), because it brought with it such a terrible chaos and so much destruction. The "general characteristics" (chapter II) are brilliant, as usual, and quite to the point, though he honestly states the great difficulties any observer, especially a foreigner, meets in present-day Russia. His parallel between the Bolsheviki and the English Puritans, both so very fanatical, is also perfect; he adds, however, that every true Communist must be a thorough internationalist, thus denying the very

"natural and instinctive" feelings of patriotism and nationalism. His description of Lenine is very good although he might have explained more emphatically that this leader's "opinionated narrow orthodoxy" is a necessary consequence of his fanaticism.

We cannot but agree with Russell's final conclusion, that "while he went to Russia as a convinced Communist, the personal contact with Bolshevism increased a thousandfold his own doubts as to the wisdom of holding this creed," so unrealizable and contrary to human nature. This should convince all sympathizers with the Soviet government that the latter has only a small nucleus of honest fanatics, with a vast fringe of scoundrels and profiteers.

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An Introduction to the Peace Treaties. By ARTHUR P. SCOTT. Chicago, 1920, Chicago University Press, 285 pp.

The chief usefulness of this book is its summary and explanation of the peace treaties as concluded up to May, 1920. Introductory chapters on war causes and war aims, negotiations during the war, the peace conference, and the framing of the treaty, are excellently done and give in brief compass, clearly and without waste of words the necessary historical background for the treaties. But the main purpose of the book is to furnish a convenient summary, with running commentary, of the treaties themselves. It includes the treaties with Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, the supplementary treaty with Poland, and the proposed treaties of alliance between Great Britain and France and the United States and France. Though the treaties are easily accessible to one seeking information about them, and perhaps unusually intelligible as treaties generally go, a book that gives the gist of their contents without their complicated phraseology and multiplicity of details is a welcome addition to the literature of the subject. It is especially useful for an understanding of the territorial settlements. Exact locations with number of square miles of territory involved are given. The treaties merely mention the territories to be transferred and leave one no wiser as to how much area they contain and only the use of an unusually detailed atlas would acquaint one with their location. Besides giving more serviceable information than the treaties themselves the author explains the influences and conditions that brought about the more important settlements and readjustments. This